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Agenda item 21 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, India, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen and Zaire: draft resolution

Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 43/206 of 20 December 1988, 44/178 of 19 December 1989, 45/229 of 21 December 1990, 46/176 of 19 December 1991, 47/160 of 18 December 1992, 48/201 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 L of 20 December 1994 and 50/58 G of 20 December 1995 and the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council on emergency assistance to Somalia,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, in which the Council, inter alia, urged all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia and reiterated the call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of those organizations and the guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia,

Recalling in particular Security Council resolution 954 (1994) of 4 November 1994, in which the Council, inter alia, decided to withdraw all the forces of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II before 31 March 1995 and expresses its confidence in the willingness of the United Nations to remain ready to provide, through its various agencies, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries of the Horn of Africa and the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in their efforts to resolve the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Somalia,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to assist the Somali people in their efforts to promote peace, stability and national reconciliation,

Noting with concern that political instability and the absence of central authority continue to characterize Somalia and that, while the environment has become conducive to some reconstruction and development-oriented work in certain parts of the country, the humanitarian and security situation has worsened in other parts,

Reaffirming the importance it attached to the need for effective coordination and cooperation among the United Nations agencies and their partners,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia,[1]

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States to alleviate the hardship and suffering of the affected Somali population,

Noting with concern that the absence of progress towards national reconciliation has rendered donors reluctant to provide adequate resources for Somalia, in a situation where, at the same time, the prevailing climate of political instability increases the requirement for humanitarian assistance,

Noting with appreciation that in several parts of Somalia emergency situations no longer exist,

Recognizing that, while the humanitarian situation remains precarious in some parts, there is a need to continue the ongoing process of rehabilitation and reconstruction alongside the process of national reconciliation, without prejudice to the provision of emergency relief assistance wherever and whenever required, as security allows,

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[1] A/51/315.

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations system focusing on working directly with Somali communities, whenever possible, in the absence of a recognized national government, and welcoming the efforts of the United Nations, in partnership with Somali local and regional counterparts and non-governmental organizations, to formulate a programme combining humanitarian and developmental approaches, given the varying conditions in different areas of the country,

Re-emphasizing the importance of the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services at local and regional levels throughout the country,

1. Expresses its gratitude to all States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations that have responded to the appeals of the Secretary-General and others by extending assistance to Somalia;

2. Expresses its appreciation to the Secretary-General for his continued and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance to the Somali people;

3. Welcomes the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the countries of the Horn of Africa and the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries to resolve the situation in Somalia;

4. Welcomes the strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increasing the self-reliance of the local population, and the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies, their Somali counterparts and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms for the implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

5. Emphasizes the basic principle that the sustainable implementation of international assistance programmes remains the responsibility of the Somalis, and reaffirms the importance it attaches to the creation of workable arrangements for collaboration between the United Nations system and its partner organizations and their Somali counterparts for the effective execution of rehabilitation and development activities in those parts of the country where peace and security prevail and a responsible authority exists;

6. Urges all States and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 so as to assist the Somali people to embark on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution-building aimed at the restoration of civil administration at the local level in all those parts of the country where peace, security and stability prevail and responsible Somali leadership exists;

7. Appeals to all the Somali parties concerned to terminate hostilities and to engage in a national reconciliation process that allows for transition from relief to reconstruction and development;

8. Calls upon all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United Nations and its specialized agencies and of non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement throughout Somalia;

9. Calls upon the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

10. Requests the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all necessary measures for the implementation of the present resolution, to apprise the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1997 of the progress made and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session.